

British Disregarded Warning in London Raid, Nazis Assert

Apartment Houses Among
Damaged Buildings;
Library Hit Again

By the Associated Press.
BERLIN, April 18.—"Stronger forces" of the R. A. F. than ever before used against Berlin penetrated the barrage belt to the center of the German capital last night in a bombing attack.

The high command said the warning Germany conveyed night before last in the Luftwaffe's unequalled "retaliatory" raid on London.

Authorized sources said the Prussian State Library, already undergoing repairs as a result of the R. A. F. raid on the night of April 9, again was damaged by a hit from an incendiary bomb.

Three other "public buildings" and "about 10 apartment houses" were damaged, the high command said, minimizing casualties.

"Despite the warning which the German Air Force made night before last by a tremendous retaliatory attack on London, stronger forces again penetrated as far as Berlin's outer anti-aircraft barrage," said the daily communiqué, adding that "single planes succeeded in pushing through the fire belt to the city center."

Nazis Hit Portsmouth.

While the British were striking the Luftwaffe was delivering another strong blow at Portsmouth, the high command said, and heavy damage was declared done to the harbor area and docks with high explosives and incendiaries.

(The British acknowledged that Portsmouth had been the object of a "fairly heavy assault.")

Despite the intense defense fire, the high command said, single British planes succeeded in pushing through the barrage belt to the center of Berlin.

The number of injured was small, however, and damage in other regions of the Reich was declared slight.

Portsmouth Damage Claimed.
At Portsmouth, the high command asserted, heavy damage was inflicted on the harbor area and dock facilities "by many tons of explosives and incendiaries, good visibility favoring the action."

Nazi speedboats darting into waters around Britain's southeast coast were declared to have sunk four armed merchant ships totaling 13,000 tons, out of a convoy, and damaged a fifth vessel, "as previously reported."

Luftwaffe units attacking by daylight yesterday blasted a factory on the Scottish east coast and sank a 2,000-ton freighter at the mouth of the Thames, today's war bulletin added.

The high command claimed three British planes downed yesterday over the Channel and along the continental coast, one by Nazi pursuit ships and two by anti-aircraft.

For the April 16-18 period it placed at 24 the number of British planes downed in the air plus "a larger number" destroyed on the ground. It acknowledged the loss of 10 German craft.

Six of the British night raiders were shot down.
7,000-Ton Vessel Hit.
D.N.B., official German news agency said Nazi planes scored two direct hits on a 7,000-ton vessel in a heavily protected convoy northwest of Ireland. The loss of the ship was

assumed, the agency said, following observation of an explosion and heavy smoke clouds.

In addition, D.N.B. said, a 2,000-ton freighter off the east coast of England was hit twice by air bombs and sank in a few moments.

A large airfield was said to have been attacked in Southwest England and five parked planes destroyed. Numerous buildings around the flying field were hit, the agency said.

Italians Report Hostility Grows on French Riviera

By the Associated Press.

ROME, April 18.—A Stefani, official Italian news agency, dispatch from Nice, on the French Riviera, reported today anti-Italian hostility had been renewed there since the early days of April when the Balkan situation increased in gravity.

It asserted hostility was reflected in the press and by the radio, the latter, it said, "controlled directly by Marshal Petain."

The prefect of Nice was quoted as saying before an anti-Italian demonstration organized early in the month, "I give you my word of honor this land will remain always French."

Before Italy's entry into the war Nice was among places included in clamor raised in Italian demonstrations for French territory.

Stefani asserted Italians of the region were "abused by the police, who hate them," and, while "without direct contact with the fatherland, nevertheless have been calm in repulsing every provocation."

Expansion to Increase Bomber Output for Britain Considered

Three or Four More
Plants Are Reported
Planned by U. S.

By the Associated Press.

A new major expansion of the Nation's aircraft industry to meet an urgent British need for heavy bombers was reported today to be under consideration by officials in charge of the lease-lend program.

Three or four additional plants to turn out long-range bombers—the backbone of aerial striking power—were described authoritatively as projected. The Boeing Aircraft Co. of Seattle was said to be in line to receive a contract for one of them.

An initial move toward increasing the output of such planes was made earlier in the week when the War Department awarded a \$24,275,033 contract to the Glenn L. Martin Co. of Baltimore for construction of additional facilities, principally for production of heavy bombers.

Four Already Being Built.
The proposed new plants would be in addition to four already under construction in the Middle West, which were designed to turn out 3,600 bombers annually from parts

prefabricated in automobile factories.

There was no immediate indication of the productive capacity of the contemplated new plants, but some sources said the output would be determined on the basis of needs arising under the lease-lend program.

Military experts long have conceded that Britain has a pressing need for heavy bombers to enable her airmen to reach distant land targets as well as to combat German attacks on shipping far at sea. William S. Knudsen, defense production chief, told Congress recently that with 2,000 such aircraft now "we could fix things up over there."

Current production of long-range bombers is confined to the Boeing and Consolidated Aircraft companies, both of which have large contracts with the Army and Navy.

The Martin company is building a huge four-engine flying boat for the Navy, a prototype, which is scheduled to be ready for flight in August. It weighs something over 60 tons—almost double the size of the commercial Clipper-type planes.

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Four U. S. Freighters, Shifted to Britain, Rush to Load Arms

English Crews to Man
Fast New Ship Released
Under Aid Program

By the Associated Press.

Four American freighters, modern and fast enough to outrun any submarine, were rushing to load war supplies for Britain today and to continue their ocean service under the flag of the beleaguered British Empire.

To be manned entirely by British officers and crews, the vessels were released to British service yesterday under terms of the lease-lend program. The transfer was announced by the Maritime Commission.

Most Recent Movements.
The ships and their most recently known movements are as follows:

The 7,440-ton Robin Doncaster, launched last December 7 at Sparrows Point, Md., was built for the Robin Lines' South African service

and had been scheduled to make her maiden voyage April 22. The commission said the Doncaster already is in British hands.

The 6,700-ton Exemplar was in the Export Lines' India service and on Wednesday was diverted from her scheduled voyage to Boston to rush to New York for unloading. She was launched at Quincy, Mass., last June.

The Nightingale, 7,199 tons, was built a year ago. She was docked at the Cunard White Star Line pier yesterday and began loading supplies at once.

The Almeria Lykes, 7,773 tons, launched at Kearny, N. J., last April 27, made several trips to the Far East recently.

Adaptable as Naval Craft.
All of the vessels were built under the Maritime Commission program and although designed to make 15½

knots, they have surpassed 19 knots. They are equipped with features adaptable for converting them into naval auxiliary craft.

The transfer was believed to be preliminary to the turning over to the British of some of the foreign tonnage tied up in American ports. President Roosevelt has asked Congress for legislation authorizing the taking over of foreign vessels now idle in this country. A tabula

tion today showed 87 foreign vessels, with gross tonnage of 473,762, probably would be eligible for acquisition under the pending legislation.

Spain's wine production for the 1940-1 year is estimated at 1,324,750,000 quarts.

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